

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – Art Unit 2665**

Attorney Docket No. 030048028US

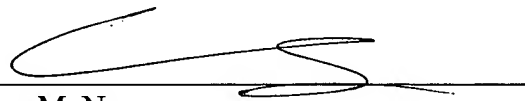
REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted simultaneous with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination application. In the parent application, a final Office Action was issued on February 20, 2004. After a review of that Office Action and the cited prior art, applicants have amended the claims to distinguish over the cited prior art.

In view of the foregoing, the claims pending in the application comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and patentably define over the applied art. A Notice of Allowance is, therefore, respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-8000.

Respectfully submitted,
Perkins Coie LLP

Date: 3/29/04


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